Dindigal-Guddalore rail line

2337. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any engineering survey or traffic survey has been made for a railway line between Dindigal and Guddalore;

(b) if so, when the construction work on this rail line will be taken up; and

(c) the reasons for the delay in taking up the work on this line?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) No, Sir. M.G. line exists between Dindigal and Guddalore.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Break down of computerised reservation system of Indian Airlines

2338. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the frequent break downs in the computerised reservations system of Indian Airlines;

(b) whether it is attributable to poor maintenance of the system; and

(c) if so, the steps being taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) There have been no frequent break downs in the computerised reservation system of Indian Airlines. By and large, this system has been functioning satisfactorily. Maintenance work on the computer is carried out during nights with a view to avoiding inconvenience to the passengers.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.

Allotment of coal handling, cinder picking and ash handling contract of Allahabad Loco Shed

2339. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether before finally deciding tenders for award of coal handling, cinder picking and ash handling contract at Allahabad Loco Shed with effect from 22nd February, 1987 the Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer called for a report from Senior Divisional Commercial Superintendent about the performance and credentials of M/s. Railway Cycle Stand Karmachari Sharam Samvida Sahkari Samiti Limited;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether inspite of adverse report of Senior Divisional Commercial Superintendent the contract was allotted to debarred Society of Commercial Branch under the same Divisional Railway Manager; and

(d) whether the Senior Divisional Mechanical Engineer was empowered to alter tender conditions and award the contract for 4 months only?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Short payment by M/s. Railways Parcels and Goods Porters Cooperative Labour Contract Society Limited at Kanpur

2340. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether during the surprise inspection conducted by Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Kanpur, it was detected that M/s. Railway Parcels and Goods Porters'

Cooperative Labour Contract Society Liimted, were making short payment to labourers;

(b) if so, how much amount of short payment was detected;

(c) whether amount of short payment has been paid to the workers and recovered from the Society;

(d) whether payment to workers was made in presence of representative of the Society and Society's consent was obtained in writing for recovering the amount from their running bills and security deposit; and

(e) whether it is a fact that the Society wrote two letters for making the recovery of short payment from their bills in instalments of Rs. 10,000 per month and also made allegations against Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central) Kanpur?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Total of Rs. 1,48,233.00, comprising of one case of Rs. 39,064.00 and another case of Rs. 1,09,169.00.

(c) Payments amounting to Rs. 29,886.00 in the first case and Rs. 1,08,269.00 in the second case were made. However, further payments have been stopped as a result of interim order of the Allahabad High Court.

(d) Consent of the Society for recovery of such amounts paid to the labourers by the principal employer is not required under Section 21(4) of the Contract Labour (Regulation & Abolition) Act, 1970. However, the Society was advised of the payments being made to the labourers at the instance of the Assistant Labour Commissioner, Kanpur. The Society's representative was also present during the payment made in the first case.

(e) The Society had requested that the amount of Rs. 39,064.00 be deducted in instalments of Rs. 10,000. However, in respect of the second amount, viz., Rs. 1,09,169, no such request nor allegation against Assistant Labour Commissioner (Central), Kanpur, was received from the Society.

Ash pit and cinder picking contract at Aligarh Loco Shed

2341. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) the reasons for inviting limited tenders for cleaning of ash pit and cinder picking work etc. at Aligarh Loco Shed, when M/s. Railway Parcels & Goods Porters' Cooperative Labour Contract Society Ltd., were working satisfactorily;

(b) whether there were reports against the Society for making short payment to workers in collusion with Shed Assistant, Aligarh Loco Shed;

(c) if so, whether any enquiry was conducted and action taken against the defaulting Society; and

(d) what are the reasons for not acceding to the request of M/s. Parcels Handling Sahkari Shram Samvida Samiti Ltd., Aligarh, for allotment of above contract by negotiations in accordance with directives and circulars issued by Railway Board?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) to (d) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the Sabha.

Contract for Coal Handling, Cinder Picking and Ash Handling work to M/s. Railway Cycle Stand Karmachari Shram Samvida Sahkari Samiti Ltd. At Allahabad Loco Shed

2342. SHRI SHANKER SINH VAGHELA: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether M/s. Railway Cycle Stand Karmachari Shram Samvida